

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66612

DRAFTED BY: AF/E: RSBARRETT:NB

APPROVED BY: AF/E: WBCOOTE

NEA: EABINGTON

S/S-O: MTANNER

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O 172348Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 222200

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT ADDIS ABABA 11121 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ASMARA 17 SEP
75

QUOTE

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 11121

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PFOR ET

SUBJECT: KAGNEW ATTACK: USG OFFICIALS' HANDLING OF RANSOM DEMANDS
AND CONTACTS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF KIDNAPPERS

1. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF ELF OR PLF MAY APPROACH
OFFICIAL AMERICANS TO DELIVER RANSOM DEMANDS OR TO TRY TO NEGOTIATE

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OR DISCUSS RELEASE OF FOUR AMERICANS KIDNAPPED IN ERITREA. THIS

COULD OCCUR AT ANY TIME IN ASMARA, ADDIS, KHARTOUM, CAIRO OR OTHER MIDDLE EAST CAPITAL. ELF REPRESENTATIVES CIRCULATE FREELY IN MANY PLACES, INCLUDING ADDIS, WHERE ONLY LAST WEEK SWISS AMBASSADOR RECEIVED A CALL FROM ELF REPS WHO PERSONALLY DELIVERED TO SWISS AMB SHEAF OF PHOTOS AND DOCUMENTS ABOUT EPMG ATROCITIES IN ERITREA, STAMPED WITH ELF SEAL. SWISS AMB ASKED THE TWO ELF'ERS IF THEY WERE NERVOUS ABOUT COMING TO EMBASSY DURING WORKING HOURS, AND CONTACTING ETHIOPIAN RECEPTIONIST ON WAY IN. ELF'ERS SAID THEY WERE NOT NERVOUS, AND HAD ALREADY CHECKED OUT RECEPTIONIST AND HAD CONFIDENCE IN HER DISCRETION.

2. IT IS NOT CLEAR TO AMEMBASSY WHAT EMBOFFS SHOULD DO IF DIRECTLY CONTACTED BY REPS OF KIDNAPPERS. DO WE ACCEPT DOCUMENT OR ORAL STATEMENT, OR DO WE ASK THEM TO CONVEY TO ETHIOPIAN GOVT? DO WE THEN TRY TO ARRANGE FOR FURTHER MEETING OR CONTACT? DO WE ASK QUESTIONS ON WHEREABOUTS AND WELFARE OF KIDNAPPEES? WE WOULD OF COURSE REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPT IMMEDIATELY, BUT BELIEVE WE NEED GUIDANCE ON HOW TO HANDLE ANY INITIAL CONTACT.

HUMMEL

UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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